

## PRATT'S NEW FREE LIBRARY DEDICATED.

The Handsome Building on Ryerson Street, Brooklyn, Finally Opened.

It Will Stand as a Fitting Memorial to the Founder of the Institute.

MANY ATTEND THE CEREMONIES.

An Eloquent Address by Dr. T. J. Backus. The Building is of Brick and Brown Stone and is Well Stocked with Books and Paintings.

In the presence of a large assemblage the handsome new building of the Pratt Institute free library, on Ryerson street, Brooklyn, was formally dedicated with appropriate ceremonies yesterday afternoon. The presiding officer was Frederic B. Pratt, secretary of the Institute Board of Trustees.

The exercises opened with a prayer by the Rev. John H. Thompson, followed by the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by the Danforth Quartet, of New York. Mr. Charles M. Pratt then delivered an address, in the course of which he said:

"It is with more than usual pleasure that I welcome you to-day to the dedication of the Pratt Free Library. For four years we have planned for increased facilities for our general work and have been seeking to provide those which were most needed. The development of the various departments has been such as to make the decision a difficult matter. It was necessary to discard several plans of buildings and accept finally the design and plan which have been worked out in this building, which, as you will see, is limited to those lines of work which we conceive to be wisely embodied in the term, 'A public library.' Since its existence Pratt Institute has always maintained such a feature, and its charter expressly states that such is to be one of the various objects which its founder proposed to accomplish."

Mr. Pratt was followed by Mrs. Margaret Deland, the authoress, who spoke of the educational advantages to be derived from Mr. Pratt's generosity.

The principal address was made by Truman J. Backus, LL. D., who said in part: "Carlyle declares 'The true university of these days is a library of good books.' Fittingly, these trustees summon their friends to an act of dedication, asking us to join them in dedicating this building to the memory of their father, and in the service of those for whom he was willing to give his life. There is sanctity in this hour. Wherever foresight, plans, and wealth makes its bestowments, and brotherly love hopes for the blessing of fellow-man, there is an act of dedication. The opening of this library is an incident in a great social movement, significant of the religious tendency of our times."

"An enlightened people is the only safeguard of a republic. The ignorance, the superstitions, the prejudices, the evils, the only dangerous enemies. When the free schools and the free libraries of this land, working together, shall have overcome native and foreign-born ignorance, then, and not until then, will the hope of the wise and valiant founders of our Republic be fulfilled."

The last speaker was State Librarian Melville Dewey. Mr. Dewey reviewed the progress of educational institutions in the Empire State, which, in this, as in other matters of public importance, he said, was taking a leading place.

The new library building is a handsome structure of brick and brownstone, three stories in height. It is located to one side of the quadrangle that is ultimately intended for other buildings to be connected with the institute. The building is of broad, Renaissance style, and its general effect is that of a group combined with strength and utility. The halls are tiled and the spacious stone staircases, with brass railings, are approached through arches upheld by columns of dark red marble.

The furnishings throughout the different departments are of dark oak, and afford a striking contrast with the light colors on the walls. A novel feature of the building is a small book elevator which runs from the basement to the top of the building. By this means books can be readily transferred from one section to another in a very brief time.

A number of handsome paintings, representative works of contemporary Swedish artists, adorn the reference room of the library building. They are the work of such famous artists as Zorn, Wallander, Nordstrom, Larsson, De Geerfeldt, Acke and several others.

## BOY BURGLARS STARVED?

Young Fletcher and Knudson Say They Were in a Station House Twenty Hours Without Food.

Paul Fletcher and Charles Knudson, the boys who broke into A. A. Law's vacant house, No. 184 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, Monday morning, have made charges against the police of the First Precinct. They say they were deprived of food for twenty hours.

They were arrested by two special officers, who had them locked up in the Adams Street Station.

When taken to the court room in the same building yesterday morning, Agent Coschena, of the Children's Society, questioned the boys.

"For Heaven's sake get us something to eat; we are nearly starved," said one of the youthful prisoners. "We haven't had anything to eat since yesterday noon."

## SHARKEY SQUABBLE MAY CAUSE A SPLIT.

No Settlement Reached by Brooklyn's Warring Republican Factions.

Expelled Members Will Appeal to the General Committee for Reinstatement.

FIGHT CONTINUED LAST NIGHT.

Wurster Denounced at a Meeting of the Irish Federation for Views He Is Said to Entertain—Declares He Is Not an A. P. A. Man.

Without request, and apparently without any other purpose than to please the spectators in the Democratic galleries, the Republicans of the Twenty-fifth Ward, in Brooklyn, last night continued the opera bouffe political performance inaugurated a week ago. Unlike the first one, however, which occurred in the celebrated wigwag at Reid and Jefferson avenues, last night's political exhibition took place at the meeting of the different district associations. It is understood that it will be repeated next at the meeting of the County Committee, and if some sort of peace is not patched up, the Kings County G. O. P. will have to drop McKinleyism and devote its time to settling what is now termed the Sharkey scrap.

The main point at issue, as the parties interested present the case, is that Alderman Wassmuth, Assemblyman Brennan, Mr. Chambers and twenty-three others high in the ranks of the party, did not attend all the meetings of the ward committee. Led by Mr. Sharkey, the rest of the committee expelled the offenders, which was done in great confusion a week ago, and now the fight has been revived by the outs representing to the various district organizations last night that non-attendance is neither a capital nor a serious offence. To prove this the fact that churches sometimes forgive non-attenders was referred to, and surely, it is argued, politics should not be conducted more strictly than religion.

Besides this the Wassmuth-Brennan-Chambers factionists last night represented to the district men that they did not have a proper opportunity to defend themselves. Possibly each offender had a good excuse for not attending committee meetings, it was argued. If there had been proper hearing, it might have been put on the stand as effective testimony, and on this, as well as other testimony, the outs might have proved themselves innocent of lack of interest in party affairs.

Members of the General Committee evidently think the same way, for yesterday the Twenty-fifth Ward was doctored with the following manifesto:

"We, the undersigned, hereby declare it to be our opinion that it is illegal for any Ward Committee to expel any of its members, suspend Republicans from their district associations, or to order a re-enrollment of any district association; and any such action by any Ward Committee would be null and void, and directly in violation of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Kings County Republican Committee."

(Signed) "GEO. H. ROBERTS, JR., Chairman Kings County Republican Committee."

"R. W. FIELDING, Secretary Kings County Republican Committee."

"JACOB BRENNER, Chairman Executive Committee Kings County Republican Committee."

This is taken to indicate that the General Committee will take up the "Sharkey scrap" for settlement, and that Willis and Wurster will champion the outs.

But Wurster has trouble of his own. He has been compelled to adopt the defensive because at a meeting of the Irish Federation on Sunday for the purpose of completing arrangements for the annual picnic at Ridgewood Park, William H. Downes made the following startling statement:

"I have been told that Mayor Wurster is to be invited. To this I object on the ground that he is a protegee of ex-Mayor Schieren, who refused to allow the Irish flag to float from City Hall, and Mayor Wurster endorsed that act; therefore no invitation should be sent to him."

To this James G. Fitzgerald added:

"Not long ago I was reluctantly forced to accompany a committee that was anxious to have the Mayor preside at an Irish gathering. He refused point blank, and I was glad of it."

Then up rose Matthew White, who remarked:

"We want no A. P. A. men at our picnic."

When the Mayor heard of this he said, first, that he wasn't a protegee of Mayor Schieren; second, that he had not presided at the Irish gathering in question because he was ill; and, finally, that he is not an A. P. A. man.

## MR. WOOD'S INJURIES FATAL.

Railroad Officials Say He Threw Himself in Front of the Train.

Alexander Woods, the aged man who was injured at the Twentieth street station of the Brooklyn Elevated Railroad Monday night, died yesterday morning at Seney Hospital.

When he was brought there the physicians thought he would recover, as he appeared to be suffering from nothing beyond a broken leg and contusions of the body. He became unconscious about 2 a. m., and died about two hours later. He will be buried from his late home, No. 225 Twenty-second street.

The railroad company insists that Woods threw himself in front of the engine, but there is little evidence to sustain that theory. He was subject to attacks of vertigo, and was seen to reel and fall to the track as the train was approaching.

James George, the engineer, was discharged by Justice Tighe, who said he was not responsible for Mr. Woods's death.

## A CYCLIST BADLY INJURED.

While Training for a Race Nye Ran Into a Hydrant in the Park.

Patchogue, L. I., May 26.—Allan T. Nye, a member of the New York Athletic Club, who is stopping for the summer at Bayport, while scorching on his bicycle along Main street, training for the Patchogue Wheelmen's Decoration Day races, last night, ran into a hydrant. The street was dark and he did not see the hydrant until he was thrown heavily to the ground and his wheel was demolished. His leg was broken and he received other severe injuries.

## FENCE SHUTS OUT MANHATTAN BEACH.

Brighton Beach Company Says Corbin Can't Have All the Privileges.

Barricade Erected Does Away with the Usefulness of the Marine Railway.

A MERRY WAR AT CONEY ISLE.

President Murphy Says the Fence Will Stay Until the Manhattan People Come to Terms—An Agreement May Be Reached.

Manhattan Beach and Brighton Beach are at war. The Manhattan Beach people say they are the stronger and will crush their opponents. The trouble is over the Marine road. It is a line extending 1,000 yards, operated by the Austin Corbin interest. It begins at the Manhattan Beach Hotel and runs to the end of the lawn, where a high fence is erected. There is an entrance through the fence to the Brighton Beach property, and for the pleasure of travelling this 1,000 yards the passenger is charged a nickel. He cannot walk, for the Manhattan Beach people decide that any one who is guilty of such an act is a trespasser and is liable to arrest and imprisonment.

There has always been an agreement between the Manhattan Beach people and the Brighton Beach Improvement Company, which controls Brighton Beach. This year the Corbin syndicate decided to run things to suit themselves, and started the Marine road without effecting the agreement.

President George I. Murphy, of the Brighton Beach Improvement Company, visited the beach last Sunday and looked over the ground. He saw that thousands of people from West Brighton and Brighton Beach went to Manhattan over the 1,000-yard road, while comparatively few came the other way.

Yesterday morning, at daylight, a gang of carpenters constructed a high fence across the opening and painted upon it, "No Thoroughfare. Dangerous!"

The little railway could not very well land its passengers against a high fence, where they could go no further, so it discontinued train service, and sent out an announcement that hereafter people desiring to reach Manhattan Beach would have to go via Long Island City, Flatbush avenue, Brooklyn, or Bay Ridge.

President Murphy last night said that the fence was constructed under his orders. He was willing, he said, to allow people to walk over their private property if the Manhattan Beach people would do the same. He did not think, however, the Manhattan Beach people had the right to deny them the use of their own property.

"There has always been an agreement between us," he said, "and until the Manhattan Beach people enter into another agreement they cannot dump their passengers on our property and reap all the benefit. I noticed last year that thousands of people went from West Brighton and Brighton Beach to the fireworks at Manhattan. If these people have to go round by way of Brooklyn or Bay Ridge they will make the trip twice as long."

He wanted all the benefit without any of the expense, and we shut them off for two days, when they came to-day. We have shut off until they are reasonable enough to do the fair thing, when we will remove the fence."

It is expected that an agreement will be reached before the season is in full swing on the island, in spite of the fact that the Manhattan Beach people say they will abandon the operations of the Marine road entirely rather than be dictated to by another corporation.

The Brighton Beach syndicate say they are not dictating, but if the Marine road lots passengers off on their property they must stand the expense of a properly constructed walk for them, and sign an agreement which calls for the payment of a lump sum of money.

In the meanwhile visitors to the island cannot take in all parts in one day without travelling by rail or by mail in order to cover a space of a thousand yards.

## Kinsella's Old Home to Be Sold.

The house, No. 490 Clinton street, Brooklyn, is to be sold at auction to-day.

It was formerly owned by Thomas Kinsella, the editor, Congressman and Democratic leader.

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LONG CREDIT

104 WEST 14TH STREET.

## ALLEGED SWINDLERS PLACED ON TRIAL.

Accused of Defrauding Merchants by Means of Bogus Advertising Contracts.

Three Men and a Woman Comprised the Firm of Caswell & Company.

A FORMER EMPLOYEE'S TESTIMONY.

O'Dare Declared That Simple Permits for the Use of Names Were Added to and Changed in Contracts. No Confessions Produced.

The case of the Federal Government against the men and woman connected with the firm of Caswell & Co., was the subject of an examination before Commissioner Morle in the United States Court, Brooklyn, yesterday. The rumored confession of Miss Caswell, which was expected, was not produced.

The defendants, Miss Anna Caswell, Isidore Myer, Sigmund Morris and H. M. Morris were accused by the Government of swindling merchants by means of bogus contracts for advertising.

Post Office Inspector Holder, the first witness, related the substance of an interview he had with Miss Caswell. She said the name Caswell & Co. was the firm name long before she entered its employ.

John Bodine, clerk for John W. Mason & Son, declared he never saw the contract which bore his name. Cashier Walter McDougall, of Baker, Smith & Co., No. 73 West Houston street, New York, said he had no recollection of signing a contract, yet he thought it bore his signature or a fac simile of it.

George P. O'Dare, a printer, employed by the firm who did the printing for Caswell & Co., was called in as a witness. He said the documents which were signed by merchants were afterward run through a printing press, and words were added which changed them from simple permits for the use of names in a directory to contracts. The witness also declared that the presses were used after he had left the place at night. Sigmund Morris, he said, was a printer. The defendant arose and said in a snappy manner: "I am not."

"He and his brother told me he was a practical printer," O'Dare answered. "If one fourth of the charges are true," said United States District Attorney Bennett, "this is the most serious case I have had to deal with. The rascality indicated was bounded only by the limits of the country."

"If Mr. Bennett made this statement outside of court, I should prosecute him for libel," said the counsel for the defence. The case was postponed until Friday.

## MAY ARREST PUGILISTS.

Long Island City Clergymen Determined If Possible to Stop the Maher-Slavin Fight.

At a meeting of clergymen in Long Island City yesterday afternoon, at which the Rev. Archdeacon Edward D. Cooper, of the P. E. Church of the Redeemer, first called the Rev. Charles Park, of the First Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. M. J. Milten, of Trinity Methodist Church, were present, the subject of the proposed fight between Peter Maher and Frank P. Slavin, scheduled for May 28, at the Europa Club house, Long Island City, was discussed.

The clergymen called on Mayor Gleason last Saturday to ask him to stop the fight, but the Mayor declined to do so, saying he would be present to see that the law was not violated. This did not satisfy the ministers, who are determined to prevent the act.

It was decided that affidavits and other papers should be prepared to present to Police Justice Ingram to-day and ask him to issue warrants for the arrest of Maher, Slavin, Tom O'Rourke, the manager of the club, and others interested in the affair, and to place them in the hands of Sheriff Doherty for execution. The application to Justice Ingram will be made on the ground that the articles of agreement signed by the representatives of the two principals provide that a purse of \$5,000 shall be fought for, which \$10,000 is to go to the loser and that it is to be a prize fight.

The men in charge of the fight are continuing the arrangements, and express themselves as confident that there will be no interference.

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THURSDAY, May 28th,

8 A.M. to 12 Noon.

980 FINE QUALITY BOYS' SUITS.

Made of Pure Wool Fabrics—Latest Styles—Good Workmanship and Fit—But the Lots are Broken and They Must Go!

\$1.88 ALL AT ONE PRICE \$1.88

DOUBLE-BREASTED SUITS, sizes 6 to 15 years; Gray, Brown and Slate Mixtures; also NAVY BLUE and BLACK.

REEFER SUITS, sizes 3 to 8 years; large Sailor Collars; beautiful styles; braid trimmings.

A large lot SAILOR SUITS and EXTRA PANTS, strictly Pure Wool; fast color; Navy Blue.

\$1.88 ALL AT ONE PRICE \$1.88

Not a Suit in the Lot Worth Less than THREE DOLLARS—Some FOUR and FIVE.

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Our Linen Crash Suits are beautiful exponents of the tailor's art. They illustrate the marvellous power of money and taste combined. Sold at a low price, too.

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Golf—Bicycle Suits Same Price.

Regent Bicycle, \$65.00.

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Carpets and straw rugs in great variety, but all at lowest prices.

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Artistic and Practical

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AT FACTORY PRICES.

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ESTABLISHED 50 YEARS

\$3.75

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Strong Steel Gear.

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\$10.75.

Your Choice Now,

Other goods on broken lot table—

SUITS

First Sale Price \$8.75 and \$10.75 (retail price \$15 and \$20) NOW . . . 7.75

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Retailing Stein-Bloch Wholesale Stock at the Wholesale Warerooms,

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The Crowning of the Tsar of all the Russias

The Crowning of the King of all the Dentifrices

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The Public honor SOZODONT for its absolute purity and harmlessness, as well as for its delicious fragrance. It preserves the teeth, hardens the gums and sweetens the breath.

A sample of Sozodont (including sample cake